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REVIEWS

Selden's Everyman's Garden Every Week*

Mr. Selden has written a very useful little book which is full of information for the amateur gardener. Its introductory chapters are upon cold weather planning and reading; saving the family purse; garden soils, good and bad; tools that are essential; garden eugenics; water whenever needed; garden mistakes of various sorts; and taking planting cues from nature. These are followed by chapters describing work which may be done to advantage during every week from early April until November, and the book concludes with chapters on indoor work and suggestions for the garden calendar. The book is packed full of suggestions, directions and remarks concerning garden crops of all kinds, and cannot fail to be of great service to a large constituency.

N. L. BRITTON.

BLACKMAN, V. H. AND PAINE, S. G., *A Recording Transpirometer*, Ann. Bot. 28: 109-113, 1914, describe an ingenious device for automatically recording the loss of water from a plant. The properly prepared potted plant is placed on the left-hand pan of a balance and counter-poised. Nearby is a water reservoir with a tube placed so as to discharge a uniform series of drops directly over an opening in the cover of a flower pot. When the experiment is started a small vertical funnel, attached to a horizontal metal tube, intercepts the drops and discharges them into a waste vessel. The metal tube passes through two solenoids placed end to end. As water is lost by the plant the left-hand balance pan rises and finally, by means of a mercury cup attached, makes an electric contact, closing the circuit through the further one of the two solenoids. This draws back the metal tube, and water drops now fall into the flower pot. As the left pan descends the circuit is broken, but drops continue to fall into the pot until the rising right pan, by means of an arrangement similar to that on the left pan, closes an electric circuit through the near solenoid, thus moving the tube back into its original position.

* Selden, C. A. *Everyman's Garden Every Week*, pp. 1-338, small octavo. Dodd, Mead & Company, 1914.